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EXCLUSIVELY YOURS

Dramatic Opening Planned; How Wild Are Texas Wilds?

* By BETTY BEALE

Star Staff Writer

The pre-Broadway first night performance of "Advise and Consent" in our fair city promises to be the most important theater opening the Capital has ever witnessed.

The Smith College Club of Washington, which topped the Tuesday night entertainings at the National on October 18 for the benefit of local scholarships, is absolutely aglow over its prize.

New York, which will get the show itself on November 17, is so fascinated it is sending reporters and photographers all the way to Washington to record the event. Television expects to cover it and national magazines are making inquiries.

It is hard to see how a theatrical performance could be more fraught with interest. It was written by a Washington newsmen, Allen Drury, who will be in the audience. It's a political play being produced in the midst of a presidential campaign. It's focused on the United States Senate from which sprang three of the 1960 candidates. And the orchestra seats will be filled with the real-life counterparts of the characters in the book—ambassadors, senators, Government officials, political bosses.

SECRETARY OF STATE Mr. Dean Rusk will occupy the role of Secretary of State. They watch the play. The fortunate would-be Secretary of State on the stage sweat out his efforts to get confirmed.

character who toted it on the stage.

Ah, me! Such are the pitfalls of real-life politics.

French Ambassador and Mme. Alphand, Netherlands Ambassador and Mme. Van Ronen, Belgian Ambassador and Mme. Scheyven, Canadian Ambassador and Mrs. Heeney and Israeli Ambassador and Mrs. Harman are not only patrons, along with other ambassadors mentioned in the book, but have already reserved seats. So have Senators Saltonstall, Kefauver and Dodd, Secretary of Defense and Mrs. Gates, Supreme Court Justice and Mrs. Stewart, Central Intelligence Director and Mrs. Allen Dulles and dozens of others.

The names of both the presidential and vice presidential candidates are also on the long and illustrious patrons' list written inside the invitation to subscribe. And if any of them are in town that night it is practically a foregone conclusion they will attend because of coverage and or curiosity.

Henry Cabot Lodge is still listed among the patrons, as United States Representative to the United Nations, but don't let it worry you. The list was printed after he resigned, but nobody knew where he ranked minus that title, so they decided to keep him an ambassador for another month. You can't say Smith graduates are not resourceful.

To show you how wary Washington officials have to be regarding the realistic "A and C," every one of them who was asked to lend a personal briefcase, pipe, cane or something to be used as a prop in the play for publicity purposes refused. Each was afraid he would be definitely identified with the fictitious

deer with their appealing little faces, big brown eyes and poked-up ears if my life depended on it. Each one looks exactly like my chihuahua.